

III. Remarks

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is requested.

Claims 1-36 were originally filed in the present application. Claims 34-36 were subsequently cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer in response to a restriction requirement.

Claims 7-15 and 24-27 were previously withdrawn from consideration in response to an election requirement. However, these claims are now under consideration because the Examiner has withdrawn the election requirement.

The amendment which accompanied the subsequent Request for Continued Examination added claims 37-39.

No claims are currently added or canceled in the present paper. Consequently, claims 1-33 and 37-39 remain pending and under consideration.

Applicants also note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 37-39 have been allowed.

IV. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, the claims are ambiguous as the result of a typographical error repeated in each of claims 6-18 and 20. That is, each of these claims recited "fluorine-containing chemistry" for which there was no antecedent basis in the base claim, independent claim 1. However, claims 6-18 and 20 are currently amended to correct this inadvertent error, by amending "fluorine-containing chemistry" to "fluorine-containing plasma source," for which antecedent basis properly exists. Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's assistance in correcting this error.

V. Conclusion

It is believed that all matters set forth in the Office Action have been addressed. Favorable consideration and an early indication of the allowability of the claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner deem that an interview with Applicants' undersigned attorney would expedite consideration, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



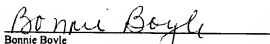
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